

**REPORT/RECOMMENDATION TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OF SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA
AND RECORD OF ACTION**

15

May 4, 2004

FROM: ED KIECZYKOWSKI, County Librarian
County Library

SUBJECT: GRANT APPLICATION - GLOBAL LANGUAGES MATERIALS PROGRAM

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Authorize the submission of a grant application to the California State Library in the amount of \$25,000 to expand Spanish and Asian language collections at targeted Branch Libraries.
2. Authorize the County Librarian to sign necessary application documents to comply with grant guidelines.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: The California State Library is offering a grant opportunity under its Library Services Technology Act to assist public libraries in the expansion of their foreign language collections. The objective of this particular grant program is to provide informational and recreational materials to immigrants in their native languages to assist them in more fully participating in California and American society. Census 2000 data was analyzed in those communities served by the County Library. Although approximately half of the populations in the Bloomington, Montclair, Fontana, and Rialto areas speak Spanish at home, Spanish language materials comprise only 2 to 5% of these branches' total collections. In the Chino Hills community, 15% of the population speaks an Asian/Pacific Islander language in the home, while the Asian collection at this branch is only 1% of the total collection. If approved, the grant funds will be used to purchase materials to directly address the needs at the targeted branches, but will indirectly benefit English Language Learners throughout the County Library system. While these materials will be housed in the branches identified, books may be requested for delivery to other branches through the Library's online catalog.

The deadline for submittal of this application is May 6, 2004. If the grant application is successful, County Library will return to the Board for approval to accept these funds in accordance with County Policy.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL BY OTHERS: This item was reviewed by County Counsel (Deputy County Counsel Dawn Stafford, (909) 387-5471) on April 21, 2004, and by the County Administrative Office (Tom Forster, Administrative Analyst, (909) 387-4635) on April 26, 2004.

FINANCIAL IMPACT: This grant would provide funding in the amount of \$25,000 to purchase Spanish and Asian language materials for the targeted branches. If the grant application is approved, the Library will return to the Board for approval to accept the funds and appropriate the \$25,000 to the Book Budget.

COST REDUCTION REVIEW: The County Administrative Office has reviewed this agenda item, concurs with the department's proposal, and recommends this action based on the demonstrated need to provide services to the target group and the financial gain of using outside funding sources to fill this need.

SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT (S): 2nd, 4th, and 5th.

PRESENTER: Ed Kieczkowski, 387-5721.

Record of Action of the Board of Supervisors